

**Student Affairs Director Meeting  
November 6, 2025**

**Minutes**

Present: Dennis King, Edie McCracken, Chantelle Arnold, Christie Sander, Joey Linn, Craig Karlin, Jill Arensdorf, Kelsi Broadway, Jon Armstrong, Brett Meyer, and Chris Gist

**Traveling Trophy**

- The Division of Student Affairs Traveling Trophy was presented to the WellTiges 2.0 Committee.
- Joey thanked the committee for their work in kicking off the WellTiges 2.0 program in the division this past week.

**Academic Affairs Update**

- KBOR is reviewing reduced credit bachelor's degrees. HLC approved guidance that would allow two- and four-year institutions to have programs approved for less than 120 credit hours. HLC has approved nine programs at community colleges. K-State has submitted a proposal to KBOR for an exception. KBOR has formed a task force to see how this can be addressed in the State of Kansas. The group has met once. At this time, Fort Hays will not be submitting any proposals.
- KBOR is reviewing policies for revised workload for faculty and tenure policies.
- Searches are ongoing for the Agriculture and Management Department. Glen McNeil is serving as the Interim Chair in the Agriculture Department and Dr. Chuck McAllister as the Interim Chair in the Management Department.
- Joey and Jill will be reviewing the Orientation fee proposal.
- Jill charged Beth Spencer, Assistant Provost for Student Success, with submitting a proposal to revise the Academic Reinstatement process. For the Spring 2026 semester, we will use a triage approach and roll out the new policy starting with the Fall 2026 semester.

**Affiliation Update**

- Peter Laipson gave an update on the 12 Affiliation teams. There are five academic teams, five operational teams and three functional teams.
- This is the second formal year of the Affiliation since it was approved by HLC.
- The academic AITs are completing their program pathways. They will now be focusing on creating experiential education opportunities outside of the classroom with businesses.
- The operational AIT goals are working on the friction between institutions and continuing to work to make their relationship as seamless as possible.
- Progress markers of the Affiliation include the launch of a new website. The website was funded by the Department of Commerce Grant. Each institution has a workforce development staff member. Technical colleges are getting access to Workday and remote library services. Together Health will be available to the tech colleges. The

SGAs from each institution are coordinating activities. Faculty sharing is also being discussed. A searchable database for high school students where they can click on their school to see what concurrent classes are offered at their school.

- The Gateway fee is being reviewed and will be taken to the Steering Committee for review.

### **VP Update**

- KBOR Update – November 19 and 20 on the FHSU campus.
  - First reading for 2026-27 housing rates.
- The Vice Presidents for Student Affairs from the MIAA schools will be meeting on November 14 on the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith campus.
- Division Holiday Gathering – December 18 @ 3 pm
  - Event will be for professional staff only this year. Offices should have student employees cover their offices. The event is not mandatory, but staff will not receive the gift if they do not attend.

### **Enrollment Leadership Update**

- KAMS Preview Day – Saturday, November 15
- Registration for the spring semester has started.
- Discussion with Hays High on expanding concurrent enrollment options.
- Revamping the recruitment process of transfer students.

### **Student Engagement**

- International Festival
  - Friday, November 17 @ 6 pm, FHSU Ballroom
- Christmas Tree Lighting
  - Tuesday, December 2 @ 5 pm, outside of Sheridan Hall
- WellTiges Update
  - The kick-off was held on November 5 with 58 staff attending.
  - This year's motto is Take Care.
  - Watch and learn events will be held in December. Reminder to accept invitations for food count.

### **Search/Staffing Updates**

#### **Student Affairs**

- Gabby Irby has been hired as the Administrative Specialist. She started on Monday, November 3.

#### **Financial Aid**

- Kaylee Brin has accepted the Financial Aid Scholarship Specialist position. She will start on November 10.

#### **Admissions**

- Marissa Nuss accepted the Engagement Coordinator position in Admissions.
- The Admissions Office has three vacant positions – Admissions Counselor, Admissions Regional Counselor and Admissions Counselor/Digital Recruitment

### Student Engagement

- Interviewing a candidate for the Assistant Director of Strategy & Operations
- Administrative Specialist position will be posted soon.

### For the Good of the Order

- Math Relays will be held in the Memorial Union on Thursday, November 13.
- Admissions had a positive turn for college day.
  - College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences held their first college day with 68 students attending.
  - The College of Health and Behavioral Sciences had a record attending of 120 students.
  - Physics Day had 14 students attend.
  - Informatics Day is scheduled for Monday, November 10 with close to 100 students registered.

The next Student Affairs Director meeting will be held on December 4.